

2998, "The Radio Free Afghanistan Act," of which I am an original cosponsor. This legislation creates a "Radio Free Afghanistan" under Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL). It will revive the broadcasts that RFE/RL conducted when the Soviets invaded Afghanistan during the Cold War. Europe is very familiar with the challenges of broadcasting to Afghanistan, and it has the institutional knowledge necessary to perform these broadcasts and get them up and running quickly. This bill authorizes the funds necessary to allow broadcasting into Afghanistan for 12 hours a day. This vital legislation will provide the voice the US currently lacks within the region.

At the present time there is no alternative to the hateful propaganda that is being aired in support of Afghani terrorism. One such example is a bogus story that reported that 4,000 Jews did not go to work on Sept. 11th at the World Trade Center. This false information insinuates that Israel is somewhat responsible for the attacks—unfortunately these lies are not being responded to. The Afghan people deserve an alternative to listen to—the truth.

Prior to September 11, tragic conditions existed in Afghanistan. The Afghans had endured their worst drought in 30 years, 23 years of military fighting, and oppressive and barbaric treatment of women and minorities by the Taliban regime. All of these circumstances contributed to massive numbers of Afghan refugees who migrated to Pakistan. Some 3.5 million Afghan refugees fled to Pakistan, two million to refugee camps and 1.5 million to the cities and villages. Since September 11, the number of people attempting to flee Afghanistan and its cities has increased dramatically, and the plight of refugees and displaced persons has become even more perilous. These figures are a prime example of why the people of Afghanistan need to know the truth—that America stands in support of their freedom and is not the cause of their strife. They need to know that humanitarian aid is just that and nothing more.

Author Henry Peter Brougham once said "Education makes people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave." The people of Afghanistan are being enslaved because they have no access to accurate information. We must empower the people of Afghanistan, counter the lies and false propaganda, and allow free flowing the factual information to be presented to Afghans. "Radio Free Afghanistan," will allow us to do just that.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was detained in returning from my district last night due to delays in my flights and missed three votes. Had I been here I would have made the following votes: Rollcall Nos. 426—"aye", 427—"aye", 428—"aye".

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS J. NOWIERSKI, R.P.H., M.P.H. AND ROSE MARIE POVEROMO, BEING HONORED BY THE TAMINENT REGULAR DEMOCRATIC CLUB, INC.

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Thomas J. Nowierski and Rose Marie Poveromo who are being honored on November 3, 2001 at this year's annual Taminent Regular Democratic Club, Inc. dinner and dance. Taminent's two honorees have made outstanding contributions to the civic life of the community.

For twenty-five years, Thomas J. Nowierski has served this community's pharmacological needs. He opened his first pharmacy, Ravenswood Drugs, in the Ravensview projects in Long Island City. He purchased Astoria Chemists at Astoria General Hospital, now known as The Mount Sinai Hospital of Queens, three years later.

In 1984, he opened Chris Drug, named for his daughter Christine, at Astoria Medical Group. Mr. Nowierski established one of the first programs in the state where seniors could receive information about their medications free of charge, in various languages.

Mr. Nowierski has spent much of his career working to address the needs of others. This is precisely what led him to open the Western Queens Dialysis Center almost two years ago. His goal was to ensure that patients in need of dialysis can get the quality of care they require.

Over the last decade Thomas Nowierski has worked on behalf of the Variety Boys and Girls Club. He became President of its Board of Directors in 1999. Tom has also dedicated his time and energy to SHAREing & CAREing, work he has done largely in memory of his late mother who battled breast cancer.

For two decades Rose Marie Poveromo has been a dedicated community activist in Astoria and Jackson Heights. A native New Yorker, she owns and operates Rose Marie Realty, while also working as an aide to City Council Speaker Peter Vallone.

She served as President of the United Community Civic Association for 9 years, during which time she organized one of the most successful Town Hall Meetings coordinated by a civic association in Queens County, with more than 600 residents participating to discuss community needs and concerns. She also organized a "Community Health Fair," which attracted over 700 attendees. Rosemarie is a tireless advocate for a better quality of life in Queens, and I have often worked with her on issues relating to the noise and congestion generated by the airports.

Rose Marie Poveromo has also served her community in numerous other capacities. She was a member of Community Board #1, Vice-President of the Astoria Heights Homeowners and Tenants Association and Vice President of Kiwanis Club of Jackson Heights. She currently serves on the Queens Borough President's Air Monitoring Task Force and the

Queens Borough President's Aviation Advisory Council.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Thomas J. Nowierski and Rose Marie Poveromo for their contributions to their community.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HONORABLE MARY WARREN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the Honorable Mary Warren for her life long commitment to serving her community.

Sadly, Mary passed away suddenly on this past Sunday, November 4, 2001. She began her long career in community service with the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA). During her thirteen years at NYCHA, Mary held a variety of positions; she worked as a Community Associate, Community Liaison, and Community Service Aide. She was an expert on New York City Housing programs. While she worked for NYCHA, she volunteered for her East New York community as the spokesperson for the Community Police Precinct Council. In addition, she organized tenant patrols, youth patrols, and led her tenant association.

After a rewarding career at NYCHA, I was able to lure Mary and her housing expertise to my staff as my Special Assistant. In this role, Mary proved herself to be an outstanding advocate on behalf of community residents. Also, she was a tireless worker, organizing events, working with constituents, and acting as my liaison to groups and agencies concerning crime, drugs, and, most importantly, housing.

Of course, Mary's service to her community never ended at the end of the work day, she also continued to be involved with both the youth and elderly in her community. As the Community Relations Associate for the Wartburg Lutheran Home for the Aging, Mary developed and implemented marketing strategies to increase participation for Meals-on-Wheels, Adult Day Health Care, Senior Housing and at the nursing home itself. This effort required the ability to work closely with people from the community of all different backgrounds, an area in which Mary excelled. Her outgoing personality served her well as the Recreation Specialist for the New York City Parks Department's Brownsville Recreation Center. Here, she served as Program Coordinator and Registration Supervisor for the various school and summer programs.

In addition, Mary had five children, 15 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild and was still an active volunteer in her Brooklyn community. She served as the District Leader for the 40th Assembly District for three terms. Finally, as a testimonial of her passion for providing affordable housing to her community and her devotion to the children of East New York, she served as the President of the Long Island Baptist Tenant Association at Unity Plaza Housing for over 20 years.

Mr. Speaker, the Honorable Mary Warren devoted her life to serving her community on